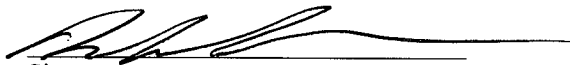


PATENT

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING PURSUANT TO 37 CFR § 1.8

I hereby certify pursuant to 37 CFR §1.8 that this correspondence is being transmitted via EFS to the United States Patent and Trademark Office on the date shown below.

7/26/07
Date


Signature

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Application of:

CHIEN

Serial No.: 09/920,879

Filing Date: August 2, 2001

Title: IMMUNOASSAYS FOR ANTI-HCV
ANTIBODIES USING ANTIGENS WITH
CONFORMATIONAL EPITOPES

Examiner: Humphrey, L.

Group Art Unit: 1648

Confirmation No.: 5787

RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION

Mail Stop AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313

Sir:

This paper is responsive to the Final Office Action mailed May 15, 2007 with a shortened statutory period of three months for response. Since this response is submitted within three months of the date of mailing it is believed that no fees are due. Applicants request reconsideration of the above-referenced patent application in view of the following amendments and remarks.

Amendments to the claims begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 5 of this paper.